

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MARCH 13, 2014

## Council Reviews TIF Financing To Build South Core Parkway

by Thomas X. White

With the early stages of residential development underway at Greenbelt Station South Core, Woodlawn Development (developers of the South Core) has requested the City of Greenbelt to begin consideration of the establishment of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district. This move would legally define the metes and bounds of South Core property from which TIF revenue could be utilized to finance the Greenbelt Station Parkway.

Previously known as the North-South Connector, the Parkway would be the main entrance to the development from Greenbelt Road and the transportation link to the Metro Station. Ultimately it would lead to a new Southbound ramp from the Metro Station to I-95/495.

The Greenbelt City Council worksession on the issue was held on Monday, March 3. All members of council were in attendance along with City Manager Michael McLaughlin and Celia Craze, director of the City

Planning & Community Development Department. Also attending was the city's bond counsel John A. Stalfort of the Miles & Stockbridge law firm.

Representing Woodlawn Development were Norman D. Rivera, Esq. and Justin Fry, site manager for the new development. Prior to the TIF-related discussion, Fry and Rivera had provided council with the current status for the South Core Development.

Craze related the history of the TIF issue and Stalfort briefed them on timing and mechanics for city consideration of the first step in the process, which would be to establish the TIF district.

### South Core Status

Fry said construction, site work and utility work are ongoing and that the first residents are moving in. He noted that Ryan Homes has sold three two-over-two condos and nine 20-foot-wide townhomes. NVR has sold nine 24-foot-wide town homes.

Fry said the break in the

weather should help sales. Permits have been submitted for the second phase of development and the proposed Greenbelt Station Parkway. He also noted that Woodlawn is holding off on construction of more two-over-two condos because they are closer to Greenbelt Road and the company wants to maintain a better view of the site during active marketing of the homes.

Rivera said plans for the proposed multi-family units are at the permit stage. He noted that the revised conceptual site plan for the South Core should be approved by the Prince George's Planning Board later this month. He also said the Detailed Site Plan for the project should be submitted in about six weeks.

In response to a question from Councilmember Judith Davis regarding Metro access, the Woodlawn representatives noted that Metro has not cooperated fully on plans for a pedestrian

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

## After Delays, French Immersion School Set to Move to Greenbelt

by Stephen Waldron

After some unexpected setbacks, the Robert Goddard French Immersion School (RGFIS) will officially set up shop at the old Greenbelt Middle School this fall.

RGFIS was originally set to move into the building on Edmonston Road at the beginning of the 2013-2014 school year but asbestos and other structural issues brought the process to a halt. June Evans, president of the school's Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), said the news reached students and parents at the last minute.

"Two weeks after school let out, we were told that we

wouldn't be moving," Evans said, "That was a hard pill to swallow."

Contractors noticed structural damage during renovation, according to the school's administration. A full report released in June identified these problems in every wing of the building. The report concluded that concrete walls and support beams needed to be replaced.

At the school's most recent PTSA meeting in February, principal Nasser Abi announced that the building's floor and ceiling tiles had been replaced and that plans are under way for a new playground. Abi also told par-

ents that the school had received 27 smart boards to be installed before students arrive in August.

### Second Year

Abi, in his second year as principal, served as assistant principal for five years before that. To him, this transition is personal.

"I really want us to have a building to call our own," Abi said, "That's very important to me."

Abi's presence at these meetings has been welcome, Evans said. In her second year as PTSA president, she said parents have had a good experience thus far with the school's new administration.

"When we have questions, we're able to get answers," Evans said, "We don't feel like we're in the dark."

According to Evans, this has not always been the case. Just over two years ago, the PTSA formed the Greenbelt Middle School Task Force to be more involved in the transition.

"At the time," Evans said, "we didn't feel we were getting a good line of communication from the administration."

Since forming the task force, she said parents have been able to take a more active role in the

See **SCHOOL**, page 6

## Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month. In observance, the News Review will run articles about Greenbelt women of significant accomplishments whose stories are not well known here.

The series is being coordinated by David Lange.

## NASA Physicist Mona Kessel Studies Radiation Belts

by Amy S. Hansen

Greenbelter and physicist Mona Kessel knows that turning on a satellite takes fortitude. After thousands of hours of planning, building and testing, the new instruments are orbiting Earth. Are they going to turn on and work correctly? What if there's a glitch? No one can go out there to fix it.

So it was with patience and some trepidation, that she and her team turned on the two Van Allen Probes a year and a half ago (August 30, 2012). They were excited that their probes would be the first to measure the Van Allen radiation belts in many years. They were prepared for the mission but it still had surprises.

Physicists have avoided sending probes into Earth's radiation belts because of, well, the radiation. The belts are made up of excited particles trapped in Earth's magnetic field. Instru-



Mona Kessel

ments tend to be quickly destroyed when sent into that high-energy region. However, newer materials and techniques have been developed in recent years to make instruments last longer. At the same time, scientists, specifically heliophysicists who study our solar system, have a stronger need to

understand the Van Allen belts. Every time our Sun sends a burst of particles and energy toward Earth, the radiation belts fill up and expand, as part of a geomagnetic storm.

These storms, also known as space weather, can affect satellites – GPS, weather satellites – and airlines don't fly over the pole. Kessel, who works at NASA headquarters, says one extra benefit of the probes will be to figure out how much shielding satellites will need to be safe.

See **KESSEL**, page 9

## Women Were Early Leaders In Greenbelt's Civic Life

by Sandra A. Lange

Alli Hartley, a senior at the University of Maryland, presented the Greenbelt Museum's February lecture on "Greenbelt Women Organize Effectively: Greenbelt Women and Civic Participation." Hartley is the Greenbelt Museum's first Dorothy Sucher Memorial intern. Dorothy Sucher was a Greenbelt Museum founder and her husband, Joseph, created an internship at the Greenbelt Museum to further his late wife's interest in that organization.

Hartley's main premise was that Greenbelt women defied the stereotypical role of women as June Cleaver-type housewives whose main interests were cleaning their houses and baking cookies. From the very beginning in 1937 Greenbelt women assumed leadership roles in the community. Although most Greenbelt women did not have paid jobs (exceptions included widows, teachers and

those who worked in the local drug store and other local businesses), Hartley maintained that their numerous volunteer activities empowered them to seek political roles. For example, Ruth Taylor was elected to the first Town Council in 1937. In 1949 Elizabeth "Betty" Harrington was elected to be Greenbelt's first female mayor. Harrington felt that by being home all day, she was more aware of the issues facing the community.

Both Taylor and Harrington were early proponents of consumer issues. In 1938 a consumer discussion group morphed into the Better Buyer's Club which focused on educating people – especially women – to be more informed consumers. The group successfully lobbied for a county-wide ordinance regulating the quality of milk and testified at legislative hearings at the national

See **HISTORY**, page 9

### What Goes On

#### Friday, March 14

1 to 3 p.m., Free Ice Cream Social, Greenbelt Community Center

#### Saturday, March 15

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Free Stormwater Solutions Workshop, Registration required at [https://stormwater\\_solutions.eventbrite.com](https://stormwater_solutions.eventbrite.com). Contact alex@chears.org or 240-542-2168

#### Monday, March 17

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Organizational Study, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at [www.greenbeltsmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltsmd.gov/municipaltv)

#### Wednesday, March 19

7:30 p.m., Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, Community Center

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Transit Meeting, Community Center



# Letters to the Editor

## Gardens Are Community Treasures

On returning from grocery shopping I sat down to read the News Review, in particular articles about our community gardens (February 27 issue).

Fresh in my mind was the price I paid for one green pepper (\$1.25) and a very few onions at \$1.47 per pound!

Call me naïve but I cannot relate to any arguments that would not enthusiastically encourage the planting of gardens in Greenbelt (or anywhere).

For a community that prides itself on its public image, what better image than that of a place where residents are responding to current and everyday concerns? Now, when good nutrition is of such concern, when food costs are hurting everyone, when fresh air and exercise are benefits to be cherished – now, these gardens are indeed community treasures!

As such, these treasures should be promoted in every way possible. If that includes the cutting back of a number of trees that may well be explained as “for the greater good.”

As for the suggestion that some may find the gardens “unattractive and unkempt,” try substituting for that picture one of our Greenbelt kids chowing down on a handful of green peas or a tomato from the garden. That might help.

Lucie MacKinnon

## Thank You

The Greenbelt Community Garden Club (GCGC) Executive Committee is pleased with the dialogue that has been established with city council and city staff. As promised after the city council meeting on February 24, brush and tree removal has begun in the eight-foot maintenance zone voted at that meeting. City staff were prompt to get to their task after the weather allowed them to work. Their effort is positively visible in the Gardenway area which was largely completed last week. For the first time in

years, the garden plot perimeters are receiving much-needed maintenance. We thank the Public Works employees for their work.

The GCGC is working hard to preserve the Community Gardens that were established in 1938. We have met with city staff and encouraged them to establish more community gardens throughout the city of Greenbelt, as well as garden plots for individuals with special needs.

The present structure of the GCGC was begun in 2007 and we held our first election in 2013 with club bylaws established prior to the election. We are proud of our development and thank the city council for their encouragement as the Club has evolved. We feel strongly that communication with the Forest Preserve Advisory Board will continue and that the management issues that arise with the Community Gardens being a contingency within the Forest Preserve will be resolved in ways that protect both the Forest Preserve and Community Gardens for current and future generations.

Martha Tomecek  
GCGC President

## New Deal Café

As a concerned and long standing member of the New Deal Café Cooperative I am writing to urge readers, both New Deal Café members and potential members, to read the ad run in this issue of the News Review which announces a petition for a Special Membership Meeting and gives information about how to learn more about it and potentially sign it. Literally decades of effort on the part of many members and citizens, and the extraordinary efforts of a few, have made the New Deal Café Cooperative an enduring reality in our community. Its continued success depends on the engagement and participation of members and citizens. Please read the ad, go to the website and participate in guiding the future of one of our most cherished cooperatives.

Barbara Simon

## Upcoming Events At New Deal Café

Friday, March 14 begins with John Guernsey on piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then Topsy Oxcart will offer up the best electric, sweaty, bumpin’ Balkan music this side of the Mediterranean from 8 to 11 p.m. This group is sure to knock your socks off.

Saturday, March 15 Bruce Kritt will play classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by John Guernsey on piano playing jazz and blues from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Better Off Dead, a Grateful Dead tribute band, will take the stage from 8 to 11 p.m. with great vocals and inspired jams.

Join the weekly Deaf Brunch on Sunday March 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Not-2Cool Jazz Trio will play from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by the monthly kids’ open microphone session from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The Café St. Patrick’s Day celebration features The Greentop Ramblers with jigs, reels and drinking songs from 5 to 8 p.m.



## Phase III Annual Meeting Tuesday

Greenbriar Phase III will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 18 at 7 p.m., in the Terrace Room.

People are asked to arrive a few minutes early to register or send in their proxy so a quorum can be obtained.

Mayor Emmett Jordan and a representative of Structural Solutions, the engineer for the balcony project, will be the guest speakers.

Grin Belt

"Did we lose an hour yet?"

## On Screen

### Hotel Splendide? Or Sordide?

The Grand Budapest Hotel is Wes Anderson’s zany, comic, elegiac homage to a vanished (destroyed) Central European civilization. Fragile Old World grace and refinement are pitted against rising totalitarian brutality.

Strongly influenced by Ernst Lubitsch, Stefan Zweig and the Marx Brothers, Anderson deftly weds criminality to high jinks in his fictional hotel. The motley, brilliant cast includes Ralph Fiennes, Tilda Swinton, F. Murray Abraham, Bill Murray, Adrien Brody, Edward Norton, Saoirse Ronan, Willem Dafoe, Jeff Goldblum, Tom Wilkinson, Owen Wilson and Harvey Keitel.

It comes to the Old Greenbelt Theater on Friday, March 28.  
Rating – R. Running time, 99 minutes.

– Jim Link

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

## LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW

Visually impaired may listen for free  
Call Metropolitan Washington Ear  
301-681-6636

No special equipment needed



## Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday  
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!  
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

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## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF MAR 14

12 Years a Slave  
(R)

FRIDAY  
\*5, 7:45

### SATURDAY

Classic Film Series  
Today at Noon  
James Stewart in  
“Shenandoah”  
(1965)  
In Technicolor –  
Free Admission!

12 Years a Slave  
\*2:15 \*5, 7:45

### SUNDAY

12 Years a Slave  
\*2:15, \*5, 7:45

MONDAY - THURSDAY  
\*5, 7:30

Starts Friday, March 28  
Grand Budapest Hotel

\*These shows at \$6.50  
Tuesday is Bargain Day.  
All Seats Only \$5.00.  
Now accepting Visa, Discover  
and MasterCard for  
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# Community Events

## Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition “Food and Friendship” program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for March 17 through 21 are as follows:

Monday – Cranberry juice, corned beef, red potatoes, cabbage and carrots, lime fruited Jello.

Tuesday – Orange juice, hamburger, lettuce and tomato, baked beans, cucumber and lettuce salad, apple crisp.

Wednesday – Orange juice, cream of broccoli soup, French Dip sandwich, mixed green salad, fresh fruit.

Thursday – Grape juice, home-style chicken tenders, macaroni and cheese, tomatoes, corn and okra, dipping sauce, tropical fruit.

Friday – Pineapple juice, potato-crusted fish, tartar sauce, lima beans, sliced carrots, diced pears.

## At the Library

Saturday, March 15, 10:30 a.m. Read to Rover, for ages 6 to 11 years. Children build their reading confidence by reading aloud to specially-trained therapy dogs glad to listen. Each child will read for 15 minutes. Registration is required, call 301-345-5800 for details.

### Adult Programs

Tuesday, March 18, 2013, 7 p.m. Book Discussion on Katherine Boo’s “Behind the Beautiful Forevers.” This 2012 National Book Award Winner for nonfiction is an interview-based narrative in which the interviewer never appears, a murder mystery, an intricately-plotted reflection of everyday life and a reminder that sometimes the writer’s most valuable organ is the ear. All who have read the book are welcome to participate. Copies will be available at the library information desk through Monday, March 17.

### Children’s Programs

Thursday, March 20, 10:30 a.m. Drop-in Storytime, for ages 2 to 5 years. A librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents that support early literacy by mixing stories with other fun activities including songs, rhymes and finger play.

For more information visit the Greenbelt Branch Library, call 301-345-5800 or go to [www.pgcmli.info](http://www.pgcmli.info) to review accounts, renew materials or for other library services. For automated phone renewal call 301-333-3111.



## GHI Notes

Friday, March 14, Office Closed. For emergency maintenance call 301-474-6011.

Tuesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee Meeting – GHI Lobby

Tuesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., Nominations and Elections Committee Meeting – GHI Library

Wednesday, March 19, 7 p.m., Woodlands Committee Meeting – Board Room

Note: Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

## Former ERHS Music Teacher Gives Recital

Retired music teacher Deni Foster will present her annual free concert at Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church on Sunday, March 16 at 4 p.m. Foster, now in her early 80s, continues to amaze audiences with her flute and piano skills. She will be joined by Heather Brown, soprano and Richard Berg on clarinet. They will perform the music of “M” composers for the month of March: Mozart, Marcello, MacDowell, Mahler, Milhaud and Menotti. Their final number for the hour-long concert will be the “Mayo Clinic Mayhem” performed by six hands.

The church is located at 3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi. A reception will follow the performance. Former students of Deni Foster at Eleanor Roosevelt High School back in the 1970s will not want to miss this recital.

## New Deal Café Offers Balkan Music

Join Brooklyn-based Balkan party band Tipsy Oxcart on Friday, March 14 from 8 to 11 p.m. for an evening of raucous party music from Bulgaria, Turkey, Macedonia, Romania and more. For one night only the New Deal Café will be transformed into a bustling Mediterranean taverna with delicious meze dishes, Turkish coffee and the infectious grooves of Tipsy Oxcart.

The band plays electric, sweaty, bumpin’ Balkan music, channeling the spirit of 36-hour weddings to keep crowds dancing until the sun comes up. Serving up original and upbeat arrangements of urban dance tunes, Tipsy Oxcart infuses the sounds of south eastern Europe with elements of jazz, funk and more.

# The Bus

Seniors and Customers with Disabilities **RIDE FREE**



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

Emily Armoa sings at the New Deal Café at kids’ open microphone session.

## Open Microphone Session for Kids Sun.

A kids’ open microphone session will be held at the New Deal Café on Sunday, March 16 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Children age 17 and under are invited to play a musical instrument, sing, dance, juggle, recite a poem or otherwise perform. There will be no kids’ open microphone session in April.

In May it will resume the regular schedule on the third Sunday of every month. For more information call Anne Gardner at 301-220-1721 or email [anne-grdnr@yahoo.com](mailto:anne-grdnr@yahoo.com).

## Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Agers know that spring is just around the corner, and with spring comes our Anniversary luncheon. On April 16 we will be at the Holiday Inn in College Park, same as last year and will have the same entertainment. Mark the date on your calendar. Just a reminder – dues must be paid before the luncheon.

You will now be able to wash the salt off the car and pack away those heavy wool coats and soon enjoy some nice spring days.

## Support for Early Memory Impairment

A new support group offered by Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) for those with early stage memory impairment will start on Wednesday, March 26 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. There will be eight sessions, meeting every other week in the Municipal Building Council Chambers.

Causes for fading memory are varied and may include Alzheimer’s, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson’s and many other disorders. Patients experience a range of emotions as they face memory challenges. The Wednesday sessions will help patients deal with these feelings. Studies show memory impairment diseases progress more slowly when there is social contact on a regular basis. Those experiencing memory problems that make planning or solving problems difficult, along with difficulty completing familiar tasks and confusion about time and place, are invited to participate in this Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL)-sponsored support group.

To register call 301-345-6660.

## Exploring the Best Ways to Speak Up

On Friday, March 21 at 1 p.m., Explorations Unlimited will present a panel on how individuals and their family members can advocate for themselves in a hospital or healthcare setting. On the panel will be Paula Mattson-Sarli, Esq., an estate and elder law attorney; Helen Barnes, RN, a geriatric psychology nurse and consultant; and Mark Asch, a community liaison with Right at Home. The panel members will discuss legal rights and understanding how to advocate within clinical settings.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in room 114. All are welcome and questions are encouraged. Call 240-542-2054 for more information.

More Community Events are throughout the paper.

## Greenbelt Arts Center

### LAST WEEKEND TO SEE

*Come Back to the 5 & Dime. Jimmy Dean. Jimmy Dean*

**Fri Mar 14 at 8pm & Sat Mar 15 at 2pm**

**NOTE: Last Performance Sat, March 15 at 2pm only**

*Ticket prices: \$17 General Admission, \$14 Students/Seniors/Military, \$12 Child (under 12)*

COMING

The Creation of the World and Other Business – March 21 - April 5 - guest production from Off the Quill  
Celtic Concert – April 26 – Homespun Ceilidh Band

SOON

For information & reservations, call 301-441-8770 or email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org) or BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)

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## ACADEMY STADIUM THEATRE

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*Most features are \$5.00 all day on Tuesdays; add \$2.00 for 3-D*  
R = ID Required  
(!) = No passes, (!!) = No passes weekend

## WEEK OF MAR 14

### FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Non-Stop, PG-13  
11, 1:40, 4:15, 7:05, 10  
Son of God, PG-13  
11:40, 3:25, 6:50, 9:55  
Mr. Peabody and Sherman, PG (!)  
11:10, 12:05, 1:50, 2:25, 4:10, 4:45, 7, 9:20  
300: Rise of an Empire, R (!)  
11:05, 1:35, 4, 7:10, 7:40, 9:45, 10:05  
Need for Speed, in 3D, PG-13 (!)  
4:30, 10:10  
Need for Speed, in 2D, PG-13 (!)  
11, 1:45, 7:20  
Single Moms Club, PG-13 (!)  
11:20, 2:10, 5, 7:30, 10:05  
Lego, PG  
11:30, 2, 4:35, 7, 9:25

### SUNDAY & MONDAY

Non-Stop, PG-13  
11, 1:40, 4:15, 7:05  
Son of God, PG-13  
11:40, 3:25, 6:50  
Mr. Peabody and Sherman, PG (!)  
11:10, 12:05, 1:50, 2:25, 4:10, 4:45, 7  
300: Rise of an Empire, R (!)  
11:05, 1:35, 4, 7:10, 7:40  
Need for Speed, in 3D, PG-13 (!)  
4:30  
Need for Speed, in 2D, PG-13 (!)  
11, 1:45, 7:20  
Single Moms Club, PG-13 (!)  
11:20, 2:10, 5, 7:30  
Lego, PG  
11:30, 2, 4:35, 7

### TUESDAY

Non-Stop, PG-13  
11, 1:40, 4:15, 7:05, 10  
Son of God, PG-13  
11:40, 3:25, 6:50, 9:55  
Mr. Peabody and Sherman, PG (!)  
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Need for Speed, in 2D, PG-13 (!)  
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Single Moms Club, PG-13 (!)  
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### WEDNESDAY

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### THURSDAY

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11, 1:45, 7:20  
Single Moms Club, PG-13 (!)  
11:20, 2:10, 5, 7:30  
Lego, PG  
11:30, 2, 4:35  
Divergent, PG-13  
8  
Muppets Most Wanted, PG  
7



### Kirwin to Moderate Panel on Higher Ed

The Orkand Chair Distinguished Lecture will be presented at University of Maryland University College (UMUC) on Thursday, March 20 at 7 p.m. This series features internationally acclaimed speakers in the fields of management, technology or education who discuss trends and advancements in their fields. Lectures are free but registration is requested.

The spring 2014 lecture will be a panel discussion on “The Future of Higher Education,” moderated by William E. (Brit) Kirwan, Ph.D., chancellor of the University System of Maryland. The panel will feature John Cavanaugh, Ph.D., president and CEO of the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area; Mark Milliron, Ph.D., co-founder and chief learning officer at Civitas Learning; Hal Plotkin, senior policy advisor at the U.S. Department of Education; and Candace Thille, Ph.D., director of the Open Learning Initiative at Stanford University.

The event will be held in the Potomac Ballroom at the UMUC Inn and Conference Center, 3501 University Boulevard East, in Adelphi. For more information or to register visit [www.umuc.edu/orkandlecture](http://www.umuc.edu/orkandlecture).

### Incredible Kid Day Letters Sought

Celebrating its 18th anniversary, Camp Fire’s Absolutely Incredible Kid Day will honor youth by asking adults to write letters of encouragement and inspiration to incredible kids in their lives. It is a simple, meaningful way to let young people know how much they are appreciated.

Camp Fire says lives are changed by this simple act – it takes 15 minutes to write a letter to a child to say how much they matter and always will. If a youth hears it enough and believes it, he or she will be more prepared to face the challenges of daily life by the impact of finding encouraging letters in lunch boxes, hidden in pockets, left on pillows or tucked into backpacks.

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day, developed by Camp Fire’s national youth organization, is celebrated yearly on the third Thursday in March. Camp Fire Patuxent is celebrating from March 20 through March 31 to try to ensure all kids are recognized.

Anyone can participate – parents, siblings, college students, sororities and fraternities, grandparents, teachers, coaches and neighbors, with the goal is that every kid in America receive a letter.

Camp Fire is also collecting letters to deliver to schools in Washington, D.C., and Maryland. Anyone can help by contacting Rosemary Pezzuto at [campfire-info@gmail.com](mailto:campfire-info@gmail.com) or calling 301-346-7860.

### Lecture Examines Sugar, Sex, Poison

On Friday, March 14 from noon to 1 p.m., the U.S. Botanic Garden will be the site of a free lecture, Sugar, Sex and Poison: Shocking Plant Secrets Caught on Camera, by Bill Cullina, Executive Director, Coastal Main Botanical Gardens.

It is known that plants are at the base of both the human and non-human food chain. Everything eats them directly or indirectly, which may or may not be a good thing as far as plants are concerned. Because they do not move around, it is easy to forget that plants are not helpless. They have evolved an incredible arsenal of chemicals, camouflage, spines, hairs and waxes to discourage herbivores. They spend a huge amount of their energy on pollen, nectar, edible fruits and sugary root exudates designed to attract and nourish animals, insects, fungi and bacteria so they can perform services such as pollination, seed dispersal, defense and nutrient acquisition. It is a carefully balanced natural economy and community based on the products of photosynthesis that is amazing in its complexity and efficiency. In this talk, Cullina will show how this world of pollen, poisons, pigments, pheromones, sugars and sex translates to sound organic practices that can benefit everyone.

This lecture is free, but pre-registration is required. Visit [www.usbg.gov](http://www.usbg.gov) to register.



We were sorry to hear of the death of Patricia (Kling) Austin of Beltsville. She was the daughter of the late Greenbelt pioneers Dunbar and Gilda Kling and graduate of Northwestern High School in 1952 that served Greenbelt at that time. Condolences to her family and friends.

Kudos to Ken Silberman, who has had great success in recruiting people with disabilities to compete for various positions at Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). As an outcome of his work in GSFC’s Education Office, he recruited record numbers of students with disabilities to apply for NASA internships: 179 in 2011; 249 in 2012, of which 13 were placed at GSFC; 335 in 2013, of which 18 were placed at GSFC; and 378 so far in 2014. He also has made 323 employment referrals of people with disabilities to NASA/GSFC since 2012.

Happy 95th birthday to former Outstanding Citizen Mary Linstrom. Family and friends celebrated with her at a party at Hillhaven in Adelphi last Sunday.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. We’d especially like to hear more from neighbors in Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West (Franklin Park). To send information for “Our Neighbors,” email us at [news-review@verizon.net](mailto:news-review@verizon.net) or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland

### Tree Identification On Capitol Tree Tour

The U.S. Botanic Garden (USBG) will host a winter tree tour of the Capitol grounds on Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The tour will be led by Melanie Choukas-Bradley, author of “City of Trees.”

Winter is the best time to appreciate the architecture of the historic trees gracing the U.S. Capitol grounds. Stroll around the Capitol with Choukas-Bradley, admiring and learning about its magnificent trees from around the country and the world. Learn to identify Kentucky coffee-trees, Japanese pagoda trees, beeches, magnolias and dogwoods during winter. Choukas-Bradley will focus on the bark, buds and overall growth habit of grand old trees, including many official state trees and memorial plantings. Giant sequoias and a massive willow oak are among the trees on the tour. Choukas-Bradley will share history of the Capitol grounds and the City of Washington throughout the tour.

The tour is outdoors -- consider bringing sunscreen, protective clothing and water. The event is canceled if it rains or snows.

The tour meets in the front of the USBG Conservatory entrance on the Terrace. The event is free although pre-registration is required. Visit [www.usbg.gov](http://www.usbg.gov) to register.

### Nuclear Energy Talk at Synagogue

Sunday, March 23 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Tim Judson, the new executive director of the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS) will give a talk on “From Kyoto to Fukushima: Nuclear Power and Climate Action” at Mishkan Torah Synagogue. The program is free and all are invited; at 10 a.m. coffee and pastries can be purchased.

The presentation will include a basic overview of nuclear power and a discussion of problems NIRS believes are associated with relying on nuclear as an energy source. This follows a Mishkan Torah-sponsored program earlier in the year on views of nuclear energy benefits in view of global climate change and is meant to give a balanced picture of both sides of the debate. NIRS, founded 35 years ago, serves as a nationwide information and networking center for those concerned about nuclear power, radioactive waste, radiation and sustainability.

Mishkan Torah is located at 10 Ridge Road.

### Greenbriar Hosts Clothing Drive

This month at Greenbriar a month-long spring clothing drive is being held. Bring clean donations to the Greenbriar Management Office.




**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
**40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt**  
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410  
**Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor**  
**Worship Service 10 a.m.**



## “To Live Is Christ, And To Die Is Gain”

Come join us in exploring Paul’s letter to the Philippians.  
Sunday Mornings at 11:00am

**Greenbelt Baptist Church**  
101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770  
(301) 474-4212 [www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)



Man’s glory lieth in his knowledge, his upright conduct, his praiseworthy character, his wisdom, and not in his nationality or rank. (Baha’u’llah)

**Greenbelt Bahá’í Community**  
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918  
[Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com](mailto:Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com) [www.bahai.us](http://www.bahai.us)

## Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST




1 Hillside (at Crescent Road)  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org)

Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.  
Clara Young, Interim Pastor



## ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH


135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322




**Mass Schedule:**  
**Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.**  
**Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.**  
**Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.**  
**Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe**

## BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor  
301-474-7573  
6301 Greenbelt Road  
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740



Worship : Sun 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Child Care Available)  
Office Hours : Mon, Thu, Fri 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Tue, Wed 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
*“A hospitable, multicultural community of faith”*



**Catholic Community of Greenbelt**  
**MASS**  
Sundays 10 A.M.  
Municipal Building  
ALL ARE WELCOME.



## Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

*Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children’s service begins at 7:30 PM*

*Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM*  
*Children’s Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.*

*For further information call 301 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)*  
*Conservative and Reconstructionist*

## Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



*Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community*



March 16, 10 a.m.  
Pay It Forward  
The Worship Associates with Dayna Edwards, Director of Religious Exploration.

In this auction service, won by PBUUC member Paul Young, the Worship Associates discuss their perspectives on the “Pay It Forward” concept through personal reflections, spirit plays, and music.



### Club 125 Plans Upcoming Events

As an extension of its Family Parlor activities on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Club 125 is hosting a science club for elementary students, focusing on how to create a science fair project. The science club will meet on March 14 and 28 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. For more information, go to <http://club125.com/>.

Classes are on winter break at Club125 while staff and club members continue to participate in a series of science and technology exhibitions. The club just returned from a fun day at the National Building Museum's annual Discover Engineering Family Day. Over 10,000 kids and their parents participated in a variety of hands-on sci/tech activities. Club125's exhibit featured remote controlled robots in a game of skill that drew 350 competitors and over 1,500 spectators.

This Saturday, March 15 from 12 to 6 p.m. the club will host its second annual celebration of Hardware Freedom Day, an event open to the public to educate and promote the benefits of open hardware. Open hardware is the principle that people should be free to repair, modify and improve on the physical design of objects from furniture to electronics. Club125 will have a large collection of Arduino microelectronics on display and available for use in a wide variety of projects.

On Sunday, March 16 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. the club will travel with its robotics exhibit to Reston, Va. to participate in the NoVa Mini Maker Faire, just three weeks before hosting the Greenbelt version of this popular "maker" event. Club125's call for Greenbelt participants, open until March 31, is asking the community and local companies to share their knowledge and enthusiasm for what they make.

Our Faire will feature exhibits in electronics, robotics, culinary arts, music and entertainment, along with general science, arts and crafts. Participants may be individuals, kids, adults, groups or companies. Early submissions include demonstrations of vertical gardening, the science of felting, local art and an exciting exhibit of STEM education by a group from Northrop Grumman Undersea Systems. More information is at <http://makerfairegreenbelt.com/>.

### Toastmasters to Meet On March 19

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Toastmasters Club will be on Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m., in the Social Hall of Greenbelt Community Church at Hillside and Crescent Roads. The Social Hall is at the rear of the church on the lower level of the main building.

Toastmasters offers professionals, students, stay-at-home parents and retirees a supportive environment to improve skills in communication and leadership. Members learn to lose the fear of public speaking, become better listeners and build skills for success.



# City Information

### MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF March 17-21

Monday, March 17 at 8pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION re: Organizational Study** at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv)

Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30pm, **PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, March 19 at 8pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION-TRANSIT MEETING** at Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

*This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.*

### VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Arts Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and Youth Advisory Committee

For information call 301-474-8000.

### STORMWATER SOLUTIONS

Saturday, March 15, 2014  
(10:00 AM to 3:00 PM)

Greenbelt Public Works Building  
555 Crescent Road



This FREE workshop provides solutions to stormwater runoff and pollution. Homeowners, churches, and community members can learn about rain barrels

and it's connection to watershed health along with the ins and

outs of Prince George's County Rain Check Rebate program. The funding for these rebates comes from the polluted runoff fee that will save you \$\$\$ and improve water quality! The workshop also includes:

- Eco-tour of Greenbelt Public Works facility of green infrastructure
- Educational and fun activities for families, including a watershed model
- Opportunity to purchase and decorate your very own rain barrel!

Registration required at <https://stormwater-solutions.eventbrite.com>

Spaces are limited! FREE and OPEN to the public.

Contact [alex@cheers.org](mailto:alex@cheers.org) or 240-542-2168

### Have you been to the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center lately?



Come check us out, we have new fitness equipment to help you stay fit and healthy. Some of the new equipment includes; Cybex Treadmills, PRECOR Elliptical Trainers, Octane Lateral X Elliptical Trainers and Concept 2

Rowing Machines. We have the same low membership prices as last year.

Check us out and get in shape!



Learn more about the City of Greenbelt, Upcoming Activities, Services, Events and more!

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

[www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt](http://www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt)

### Notice of Charter Amendment Resolution

At its regular meeting of February 24, 2014, the City Council adopted a resolution to amend the City Charter. As required by state law, this resolution will be posted in its entirety for 40 days, until April 5, 2014, at the Municipal Building, as well as on the City's Web site at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov). Copies may also be requested of the City Clerk. It will become effective on April 25, 2014, unless a proper petition to submit the amendment to the voters on a referendum is filed as permitted by law. As also required by state law, this notice is given to provide a fair summary of the resolution.

Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2014-1

A Resolution of the City of Greenbelt Adopted Pursuant to the Authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and Section 13 of Article 23A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition as Amended), Title, Corporation-Municipal," Subtitle "Home Rule" to Amend the Charter of the City of Greenbelt Found, in Whole or In Part, in the Compilation of Municipal Charters of Maryland (1983 Edition as Amended), as Prepared by the Department of Legislative Services Pursuant to Chapter 77 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1983, by Amending Section 8, Titled "Same-Quorum, Procedure" (Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2014-1)

Purpose: To amend the City Charter to allow a member of Council to abstain from voting so long as such member gives a reason for abstaining and such reason falls within one of the following:

1. When to vote would or could be considered improper pursuant to the City and State Ethics Laws.
2. When to vote could or may show bias for or against a person, organization or business that the member has a close personal relationship with thus reflecting poorly on the member and the office such member holds.
3. When for any other reason a member is not comfortable voting and has given the Chair a reason for requesting to abstain so long as excused by the Chair or Council by vote.

For additional information, contact Cindy Murray, City Clerk, at 301-474-8000 or [cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov).

### GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER



Eddie is a 1-yr-old Coon-Hound mix pup. He is extremely affectionate and thinks he is a lap dog, even though he is about 45 lbs. Eddie learns VERY quickly. He knows all his basic commands. Eddie is a little nervous, and feels more confident around other dogs. He would do best in a home

that has another dog. Eddie is currently in foster care but is waiting for his forever home!

The Animal Shelter really needs help with fostering dogs and cats. There are several animals in the shelter that could use some focused attention to flourish. Are you willing, but are concerned about long work days, travel conflicts, supplies, etc? The Shelter does its best to work with potential foster parents. Please come in and talk with Lauren or Susie, the Animal Control Officers at the Shelter about any questions you might have. Fostering is a wonderful way to help an animal while they find their forever home!

The shelter is in need of laundry detergent, wet and dry dog food & wet and dry cat food. Thank you very much!

Come out and visit all of our available pets! 550-A Crescent Road (behind Police Station) 301-474-6124 Open Wednesdays 4-7pm and Saturdays 9am-12pm

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL



featuring  
**Retro-Rockets**

Friday, March 14 from 1-3pm  
Greenbelt Community Center  
15 Crescent Road

Free! Make your own Sundaes!



COUNCIL continued from page 1

walkway route from the South Core project to the Greenbelt Station. They hope the problems can be resolved and such access completed by the summer. Council offered to help in securing progress for the walkway.

Background on TIF

In preparation for the briefing, Craze provided the full historical background on the TIF in a memorandum to council dated February 25 and a copy of the January 2006 Annexation Agreement which the city entered into with Greenbelt MetroPark L.L.C., the previous owners of the Greenbelt Station site.

Also included was a portion of a November 2007 staff report that outlined the earlier complicated negotiations between the city and the original developers.

The resulting development agreement between the city and the developers came about after the city’s successful court challenge of the original Greenbelt Station plan approved in September 2001. The 2005 agreement set limits on total development (North and South Cores), defined a list of developer contributions to the city, gave the city approval authority over site and landscape plans and mandated that the developer request annexation of the South Core into Greenbelt, which subsequently occurred.

The TIF details were set forth in the annexation agreement. A TIF is a mechanism for governments to help finance new capital projects by taking advantage of expected real property assessment increases resulting from the new construction, thereby yielding increased tax revenues. The city can borrow against these expected increased tax revenues to build sewers, roads, transportation facilities or other infrastructure. In Greenbelt’s case, the city agreed to participate in the TIF in exchange for the annexation of the South Core.

As many in Greenbelt know, the actual development of the Greenbelt Station property was delayed for nearly nine years. In early 2014, the new successor owners of the South Core are now at a stage in their development where they want the city to fulfill its commitment to finance the new road.

\$8.4 Million

As set forth in the Annexation Agreement, the city is to provide up to \$8.4 million to pay for construction of Greenbelt Station Parkway, plus issuance costs, subject to: (1) funds allocated for debt service payment can be generated from no more than 50 percent of the incremental tax increases over a 20 year period; (2) in the event revenues from the incremental tax increase of the subject property are reduced so that debt service cannot be funded, the total amount borrowed by the city may be reduced, delayed or otherwise restructured to in-

sure that the debt service will not negatively impact the financial integrity of the city.

Other provisions of the Annexation Agreement relate to assurances that the North Core Development is progressing, pedestrian facilities will provide access to the Metro Station and funding for the additional Beltway interchange is assured.

Also, according to Craze, the annexation agreement gives the city total discretion in determining how to structure the financing. “If the (revenue) projections do not meet the city’s financial needs, the agreement states that the total amount borrowed by the city may be reduced, delayed, or otherwise restructured,” she advised the council.

First Step

The initial step will be council action to define the TIF district. This was the stated purpose for the briefing and the request of the project developers. It was estimated that the definition or establishment of the district would be a six-to-nine-month process.

According to Woodlawn representatives and Stalfort, beginning the process promptly could be critical in order to secure a low base value prior to financing and to better ensure the support of sufficient property owners in creating the TIF district.

In order to approve the TIF district, two-thirds of the property owners as well as the property holders of two-thirds of the assessed value must agree. The longer it takes to create the TIF district, the more difficult it may be to secure approval by an increasing number of property owners.

Council Concerns

Councilmember concerns related to the issuance of adequate notice to new homeowners and that they receive full disclosure regarding the potential for the TIF and, in general, about the likely interest rate on bonds in today’s market and how the TIF could impact the city’s overall financial standing. City staff and Stalfort took note of those concerns but advised that the focus of the meeting was on the initial step to establish the TIF district.

There was general agreement on Mayor Emmett Jordan’s suggestion that staff prepare a proposed resolution enabling the establishment of a TIF District consisting of property in the South Core development for first reading at the regular March 24 meeting. A public hearing and second reading would occur at a subsequent meeting.

Council also agreed to speak with Metro and county and state officials regarding issues relating to Greenbelt Road improvements and Metro pedestrian access improvements serving the development and the new residents of Greenbelt West.

SCHOOL continued from page 1



The former Greenbelt Middle School on Edmonston Road is still being renovated, but by this August it will be the new home of the Robert Goddard French Immersion School.

move. The group meets on a regular basis to gather information about the transition, which they deliver at PTSA meetings throughout the year.

Stukes Arrival

Evans thinks that the process has also been smoother since the arrival of Clarence Stukes, who took over last February as chief of Supporting Services for Prince George’s County Public Schools.

“He made a commitment to communicate with the parent body,” Evans said, “and he has kept that commitment.”

\$700,000 Renovations

According to the school’s website, the Prince George’s County Board of Education has approved \$700,000 for renova-

tions. Among other projects, these will involve replacing electrical panels and the fire alarm system. This money will also go toward treating the building for asbestos.

The school serves 578 students, according to the Maryland Department of Education. It is currently located on Good Luck Road in Seabrook, where it shares a building with the Robert Goddard Montessori School.

Evans believes that sharing a space with an English-speaking school has made it more difficult for RGFIS to immerse students in the French language. She thinks that in the past, students have been more likely to speak

English because they share transportation and other facilities with another school.

“Now that we’ll have our own building,” Evans said, “students will feel comfortable speaking French in social situations.”

Abi agreed that moving to a new location will improve the students’ experience and allow RGFIS to serve a broader community.

“If we stay where we are right now, there’s no space to expand,” Abi said. “We need to have our own building.”

Renovations on the building will continue for the next few months. The school is slated to move in at the beginning of August.

NAMI Workshop On Communications

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will offer its regular monthly workshop on Thursday, March 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway.

This month’s subject is “Healthy Communication” – how to define communication, communication styles and effective communication strategies for dealing with loved ones with mental illnesses. The presenter is Victoria Karakcheyeva, Volunteers of America’s (VOA) program director for Community Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program, Opportunity for Growth Housing and Second Chance Re-Entry Programs.

The VOA mission is to inspire self-reliance, dignity and hope through health and human services. Through hundreds of programs including housing and healthcare, VOA assists two and a half million people in 400 communities in 46 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Local NAMI Support Group Meets Mar. 17

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will hold its New Carrollton Area Support Group at the Hanko Building at Beckett Field, 8511 Legation Road, New Carrollton on Monday, March 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. This supportive work group prepares the mailings and provides other volunteer tasks while sharing their mental health experiences and each other’s challenges and solutions.

For more information contact Edward R. Bowles at 240-606-4352 or ohhat2@gmail.com.

Breast Cancer Support Group

On Tuesday, March 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. Doctors Community Hospital will hold a breast cancer support group for men on the 5th floor of the North Building.

The group is facilitated by men whose loved ones are breast cancer survivors. Registration is required by calling 301-324-4968.

Scully to Be Featured Quilter in Show

Greenbelter Pat Scully will be the featured quilter at The Best Little Quilt Show in Maryland. The show, sponsored by the Southern Comforters Quilt Guild, a quilt group in Bowie, will be held at C. Elizabeth Rieg Special Center, 15524 Peach Walker Drive, Bowie, on Saturday, March 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 23, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The show features members’ quilts, a special display of Little Quilts – all quilts are less than 20” x 20” – informative demonstrations, Comforters Keepsakes, Silent Auction, Out of the Attic, quilt appraisals, raffle baskets, children’s activities, a Merchants Mall and a quilt raffle. Received a discount from the admission charge by donating a nonperishable food item for the Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry.

For more information, visit [www.southerncomforters.org](http://www.southerncomforters.org).



# ERHS Students Present Science Research in Japan

by Stephen Waldron

Three students from Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) honored for outstanding science research in December have been given the chance to present their work in Japan at a major symposium.

Seven students were invited to audition for the chance to go to Japan, presenting their research to a panel of judges including their principal, Reginald McNeill. The panel chose senior Vishnu Rachakonda and juniors Michael Stevens and Matthias Early to make their presentation at the symposium in Sendai.

The invitation came from the Japan Science and Technology Agency, which encourages collaboration between students of different cultures. Takashi Ohama, director of the agency's Washington office, visited ERHS, where he was impressed by its science and technology program.

The third annual Science Talk Live symposium kicked off on December 14 in the International Center at Tohoku University. The university sponsored the entire event, which allowed Rachakonda, Stevens and Early to travel free of charge.

The conference was also broadcast live online, which made it possibly for Matthias Early's parents, who stayed up until 3 a.m. to watch from Greenbelt as he presented his research. "It was hard to believe that our son was up there," Sally Davies said "It was very thrilling."

**Early**

Early spoke at the symposium about his linear induction launcher, a machine that uses magnets to launch objects at different speeds. Early, who has always been interested in engineering developed the idea himself.

"I really like the idea of things moving without you touching them," Early said.

During his presentation, Early explained that this electromagnetic technology was stronger at colder temperatures. He suggested that it could be used to make underground trains more efficient.

**Stevens**

Michael Stevens presented his research on developing networks that can recognize patterns. Because these patterns work similarly to a brain, Stevens proposed they could be used to improve cruise-control in cars or automatic steering in boats.

**Rachakonda**

Rachakonda spoke at the symposium about his research in tumor scanning. His experiments involved scanning for tumors in a circular pattern, which he discovered would save time and produce a sharper image of a tumor.

Officials from the Japanese Ministry of Education greeted the students after their presentations. Early said they were eager to discuss the differences between



PHOTO BY TETSUO OGAWA

**Students from Eleanor Roosevelt High School, ready to present their research at the Science Talk Live Symposium in Sendai, Japan: from left, Matthias Early, Michael Stevens and Vishnu Rachakonda. On the right is Tetsuo Ogawa, ERHS Japanese teacher and trip chaperone.**

Japanese and American education and had been impressed with the students' work.

The students were accompanied on their trip by the Japanese teacher at ERHS, Tetsuo Ogawa. He said they were nervous before the symposium but had also been determined to perfect their speeches.

"I heard them practicing again and again in their hotel rooms," Ogawa said. "They really put so much effort into their presentations."

Ogawa served as the student's chaperone but Early explained that Ogawa also made most of their travel arrangements.

"He was pretty amazing," Early said, "He actually organized most of the trip."

At the end of the four-day trip, the students had a free day to travel and sightsee before coming home to Greenbelt. Ogawa and the students traveled around Tokyo, buying souvenirs for their families and exploring the city.

**Long Relationship**

Although this was the school's first year taking part in the symposium, ERHS has a long-standing relationship with Japan. Since 1989, ERHS has sent about 20 students to Yokohama High school for two weeks every summer, which Ogawa also organizes. These exchange trips are part of a Sister-State program between Maryland and Kanagawa. Ogawa plans on traveling to Japan with another 22 students this June.

As for Early, Rachakonda, and Stevens, Principal McNeill hopes their trip to the science symposium will give them a broader perspective on world issues.

"They need to look globally," McNeill said, "Once they have that mindset, they can work with other people around the world to solve problems."

McNeill thinks that the trip could also serve as an example to other students of opportunities

that become available when they work hard.

Information on next year's Science Talk Live symposium has not been released but Ogawa hopes ERHS will be represented again in 2014.

"We don't know which university will host it next year," Ogawa said, "but we're ready."

*Stephen Waldron is working on a master's degree in journalism at the University of Maryland.*

## Black History Month Derek Coleman Publishes Books, Draws Cartoons

by Altoria Bell Ross

After Greenbriar resident Derek A. Coleman, Jr., received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, he took up writing as a hobby. At 25, he filled four journals with prose until the final product cumulated into his first book, *The Summoning Fire: Wrath of Ogoun*, released last month.



Derek Coleman

Coleman, who goes by the pen name of Gregory Sire, describes his work as horror suspense. He said he wrote and published his first for a distinct purpose.

"I didn't write for fame but to entertain people," said Coleman, who as a middle school student, cut his teeth on suspense writers Stephen King and Dean Koontz.

The *Summoning Fire* revolves around a mysterious talisman and takes place on a fictitious island off South Africa, as well as in New Or-

leans, Newport News and Hawaii. Coleman also designed the book cover relying on skills he taught himself while attending Prince George's Community College before enlisting in the Army and serving as a mortarman at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He attended DuVal High School before deciding to earn his GED at the Harpers Ferry Job Corps.

Coleman said he plans on releasing his second work, *Legend of the Pacific Havens*, a science fiction novel involving war, treachery and romance, this summer. In the meantime, he spends his days caring for this two-year-old daughter Dawn, writing novels and working on his comic strip which he began because he likes to make people laugh.

"I enjoy the craft and all it entails."

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## New Deal Café Members & Concerned Citizens!



A petition to our Board of Directors is being circulated requesting a Special Membership Meeting to:

- Amend the Bylaws to prevent conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest in the future.
- Request the Board address the questions sent to them by a concerned group of members on February 15<sup>th</sup> concerning the recent termination of our General Manager. No response has been received as of yet.

To see the petition & the background information, as well as how to sign it, please visit:

<https://sites.google.com/site/newdealcafewatch/>

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Crystal Benjamin (fifth from left) poses with members of the Punta Cana Rotary Club during her last trip to the Dominican Republic as part of the school supply drive.

# Local Rotarians Gather Supplies For School in Dominican Republic

by Hortence Barber

The Greenbelt Rotary Club is seeking donations that will enable them to continue a project in the Dominican Republic that is one of the local group’s outreach projects, most of which, closer to home, directly benefit Greenbelt.

For many travelers a trip to the Dominican Republic means three things – bright sunshine, white beaches and clear blue water. It wasn’t much different for Greenbelter Crystal Benjamin when she traveled to scenic Punta Cana in the summer of 2011 for a girls’ get-away.

However, it was during a daytime tour through a much less glitzy part of nearby town Bavaro when Benjamin’s thoughts turned to charity. “I noticed that some of the other tourists would hand out supplies to kids as we passed along the street in our vehicle,” she said, recalling the excursion she had taken with other vacationers. “I thought ‘what a great idea and wonderful way to assist others,’” she said. At that point, Benjamin, an associate member of Greenbelt’s Rotary Club, decided that her next trip to the developing nation would be meaningful.

The service organization has

historically been active both locally and internationally for 25 years, providing supplies for local students at Springhill Lake Elementary School, bikes for the needy in Jamaica and, with a network of clubs across the world, building two schoolhouses in Punta Cana through Rotary Cares. With the solid network at Rotary, Benjamin has been able to return to the Caribbean nation a handful of times since 2011 with school supply donations collected from club members, family and friends. The donations go to students at Rotary-sponsored schools in Bavaro and Macao.

**Joyfully Received**

During her last trip Benjamin said, items that many of us take for granted – pencils, markers, binders, paper – were joyfully received by the youngsters. “They were extremely grateful,” said Benjamin.

Prior to her trip last November, she was able to collect two suitcases full of supplies – one weighing 50 pounds and the other weighing a whopping 80 pounds. Fellow Rotary Club member and travel agent Helen Svensen, who happened to book Benjamin’s first trip to the Dominican Republic, also delivered items to the

school during her trip in January. As much as they were able to help, the need for supplies at the school is still strong and Benjamin, along with the Rotary Club, is determined to help. Later this year, she is returning to the nation and this time is hoping to take as many stuffed bags as possible of donations for needy students.

**To Donate**

The club is currently accepting school supply donations for Benjamin’s trip at several local businesses – Century 21 (6401 Golden Triangle Drive #130) c/o Louis Pope; Greenbelt Travel (6411 Ivy Lane #106) c/o Helen Svensen; and SK Motors (10805 Lanham Severn Road, Lanham, Md. c/o Steve Kemp). Additionally, the club is asking for monetary donations to offset luggage expenses.

For monetary contributions, please make checks payable to Greenbelt Rotary Club. For more information on this project and how to help, email Benjamin at capcorn3@gmail.com or visit the Greenbelt Rotary webpage at <http://www.greenbeltrotary.org/>. Arrangements can be made to pick up donations. The cutoff for donations is May 1.

**Senior Softballers Seek New Teammates**

The Greenbelters – the town’s team in the Baltimore Beltway Senior Softball League – seeks new players with a competitive edge. Men must be 60 or older, women at least 55. Spring training begins in March.

For details, call Manager George Harrison at 301-538-3636 or Deputy Manager Jasper Pendergass at 202-321-0909.

**Computer Club Meets**

The Greenbelt Computer Club will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 13 at the Greenbelt Community Center, Room 103 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

**Celebrate Refuge Anniversary Saturday**

Celebrate the birthday of the National Wildlife Refuge System on Saturday, March 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center.

The free celebration includes live animal Critter Chats from Masonville Cove Environmental Education Center, family-friendly music from Cody & BJ, story times by local author Cindy Freland, interactive learning stations and more. No registration is required.

The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

**2014 Spelling Bee At UM Next Week**

The 2014 Prince George’s County Annual Spelling Bee will be held on Friday, March 14 at 7 p.m. in the Dekelboun Concert Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Co-sponsored by the Gazette and the Star, the bee gives the county’s best middle school spellers an opportunity to vie for top honors and advance to the national bee. There is no admission charge.

For more information visit [claricesmithcenter.umd.edu](http://claricesmithcenter.umd.edu) or call 301-405-2787.



Front row: Belal Mobaidin (left) and Michael McFadden. Back row from left: Makayla Thomas, Imani Jones and Kiara Groves.

# Valentine's Dance Is Held At Magnolia Elementary

by Demetrice Bettis

About 70 fifth and sixth grade students attended the second annual Valentine’s Dance at Magnolia Elementary School, sponsored by the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Many cell phones were out taking “Selfies and Usies” of the latest fashions for the boys and girls. They did the same for the dance moves.

Christian James, a grade 5 student in Miss Ager’s class, like many students, commented that the music was great. Dawn James, president of the PTO, said, “While it is a lot of hard work all year, it is great seeing the culmination of this event.”

In addition to students, parent chaperones and teachers, the

disc jockeys (DJs) were the big hit of the night. William C. Brown, former band director of the Prince George’s County Public Schools, and Joe Brown, retired vice-principal in Charles County, were responsible for the music. The PTO, providing food, decorations and a professional photographer, still made a profit on this event for the school.

Also attending were Principal Phyllis Gillens and Music Teacher Ja’nes Canty.

Students said they were excited to be with friends, listening to great music. They did indeed appear to be having a good time at their “Awesome Party,” according to Kiara Groves.



Parent volunteer Dawn James and her daughter Christian James.

**Mizeur Phone Bank Sat. Callers Sought**

Democrat Heather Mizeur is campaigning, along with running mate Delman Coates, a Prince George’s County minister, for governor and lieutenant governor.

A group of supporters is making phone bank calls every Saturday for the team and is seeking help from others to call supporting their candidacy. For details call Dan Banker at 301-233-5814 or email [1danbanker@gmail.com](mailto:1danbanker@gmail.com).

**CPAE Photography Club Meets Friday**

Photography buffs who want to attend and participate in The Underexposed, the photography club sponsored by College Park Arts Exchange (CPAE), may attend meetings on Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Old Parish House, 4711 Knox Road, College Park.

For more information visit [www.facebook.com/groups/photo20740](http://www.facebook.com/groups/photo20740).



KESSEL continued from page 1

**First New Data**

But two years ago, the goal was to get the satellite probes up and running. Finally, scientists received their first data. “We saw something very unusual,” Kessel says, still sounding excited nearly two years later.

The probes’ new instruments were like putting on a better pair of glasses. Suddenly they could see clearly that the belts aren’t made up of two bands of radiation as everyone had thought. There are three.

“Our observations preceded the models we had,” she says. Which is to say, great excitement took hold of the heliophysics rank and file. Heliophysics studies are often long and drawn out. To have this much information and new discovery all at once was invigorating.

More discoveries were soon to follow.

Now, a year and a half later, the third belt is secured in scientific literature. The probes are doing fine in their radiation-filled home and are likely to keep sending data for another few years.

**Greenbelt Resident**

Kessel will likely keep working with the mission as part of her job at NASA headquarters and keep living here. She’s lived in Greenbelt East since 1991, when she started at Goddard Space Flight Center.

Her husband Bob works at the Naval Research Lab in Washington, D.C., and her daughters went to school here, starting at Magnolia Elementary and going on through Eleanor Roosevelt High

School before heading to college. Both have graduated and they’ve moved back to town. Sarah is an Emergency Medical Technician for the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad. Ellen works on documentary projects in Silver Spring.

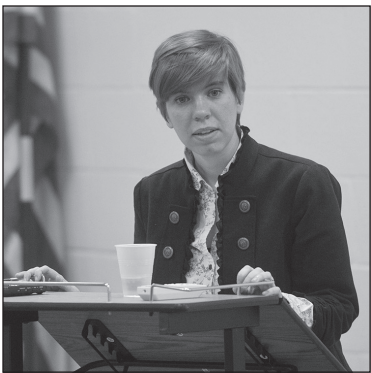
One of the benefits of living here, Kessel says, is biking. She used to race but stopped after breaking her collarbone a few years ago. Now she bikes to work, and bikes for fun in this area. “I love that I can ride right out of my house,” she said, explaining that she often uses the bridge to access bike routes around the USDA.

Kessel got hooked on physics in her last year of high school and continued to study it at Baker College in Baldwin, Kansas. She then went to the University of Kansas graduate school, finishing a doctorate in five and a half years.

While Kessel got used to being one of the few women physicists around Goddard, she says the field is changing. Now it is about 30 percent women. She says that in her NASA program downtown, two out of five scientists are women. It has taken a while for women to get to the headquarters positions but she thinks the numbers will continue to improve.

As for her, she’s happy to keep working downtown as program scientist, a position she took seven years ago. “I like to be at the center of things. I like to help set policy. But I will always be doing science too.”

HISTORY continued from page 1



Alli Hartley, a senior at the University of Maryland who is the Greenbelt Museum’s first Dorothy Sucher Memorial Intern, gave a lecture on February 25 titled “Women Organize Effectively” on Greenbelt women’s civic participation.

level as well. The Better Buyers Club became a springboard for some women to seek more advanced professional development and at least one woman went on to obtain a paying job in the consumer field.

Hartley also discussed the idea of “cooperative motherhood” in which women shared the responsibility of childrearing by creating a cooperative nursery school and a kindergarten in early Greenbelt. There was also an active “Mother’s Club” that invited outside speakers to present topics such as racial prejudice and the “mental hygiene of mothers.”

These Greenbelt organizations – many started by women – were fertile grounds for the



After the lecture, Hartley (left) poses for a photo with Dr. Joseph Sucher, who endowed the Dorothy Sucher Memorial Internship at the Greenbelt Museum in memory of his wife Dorothy Sucher.

important roles women assumed in Greenbelt. Through a host of volunteer activities, Hartley stated that Greenbelt women have substantially influenced the political, economic and social life of the community from the earliest days to the present.



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# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or [http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly\\_report.pdf](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf).  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Robbery**  
February 26, 6 p.m., 8000 Lakecrest Drive. Two residents were approached from behind by a man who announced a robbery while producing a knife. He demanded the victims' jackets and a cellphone. When one of the victims hesitated, the suspect cut his hand. The suspect fled the scene on foot after obtaining the property. The victim refused treatment for the cut to his hand.

**Assault**  
March 4, 11:10 p.m., 6002 Greenbelt Road. A woman was dining inside Joe's Crab Shack when the suspect began yelling at other patrons. She asked the suspect to stop yelling, and in turn was threatened with mace. The suspect then punched the victim several times and sprayed her with what was believed to be pepper spray, then fled the scene in a gold-colored van. The victim refused medical treatment. The suspect is described as a black female, 5'6", 120 pounds, with straight black hair and brown eyes, wearing blue leggings, a denim shirt, a grey scarf and a black jacket with silver studs.

**Attempted Strong Arm Robbery**  
February 28, 1:50 p.m., 9300 Edmonston Road. A woman entered an apartment building and was walking into a residence when she was pushed from behind onto the floor by two men, who demanded her son's cellphone. One of the men started to choke her when she said she didn't have the phone. The suspects went through her purse and without taking anything fled the scene. She refused medical attention.

**DWI/DUI arrest**  
February 27, 1:30 a.m., 7800 Kenilworth Avenue. A 35-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol and traffic-related offenses as the result of a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.  
March 2, 4:10 a.m., Greenbelt Road and Walker Drive. A 32-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol and other traffic-related offenses as a result of a traffic violation. He was also charged with possession of paraphernalia after he was found to be in possession of a pipe commonly used to ingest cocaine. He was released on citations pending trial.  
March 5, 1:30 a.m., 7800

Kenilworth Avenue. A 43-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol and traffic-related offenses as a result of a traffic violation. He was released on citations pending trial.

**Traffic Stop**  
March 1, 12:48 a.m., 6000 Greenbelt Road. A 50-year-old nonresident passenger in a vehicle was found to be in possession of a pipe commonly used to ingest cocaine. The vehicle had been stopped for a registration violation. The passenger exited the vehicle and the driver left the scene in the car. The suspect was released on citations pending trial.

**Commercial Burglary**  
March 1, 10:40 p.m., 8900 Edmonston Road. Unknown persons forced open a door to a medical office, but nothing appears to have been taken.  
March 3, 8 p.m., 7300 Hanover Parkway. Unknown person(s) attempted to break out the window of a medical office, but entry was not gained.

**Trespass Arrests**  
February 28, 12:30 p.m., 7601 Hanover Parkway. Petitions were obtained for two Greenbelt youth, aged 16 and 17 for trespassing and disruption of school activities after being observed inside Eleanor Roosevelt High School. The youths, who were former students but no longer enrolled, ran from school administrators. Their parents were advised.

**Automotive Crime**  
The following vehicles were reported stolen:  
February 27, from 8200 Canning Terrace, a 2008 Mercedes Benz R-350 4-door. The car was recovered the same day at 7200 Hanover Drive. No arrests were made.

March 1, from 7800 Mandan Road, a Ford Econoline E-350 van. The van was recovered March 5 by Prince George's County Police Department at 14300 Cherry Lane. No arrests were made.

March 4, 6100 Breezewood Court. A grey 2004 Dodge Intrepid 4-door, Maryland tags 6AW9668.

February 27, at 6100 Greenbelt Road, a vehicle's door lock was damaged by unknown person(s).

February 26, at 8000 Lakecrest Drive, a rear Maryland tag was stolen, 7BB6529.

February 28, at 7500 Mandan Road, four tires and rims were taken from a vehicle.

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### Democratic Club March Activities

The next meeting of the Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club will be held on Sunday, March 23 at 2 p.m. at the Greenbriar Community Building. The speaker will be Maryland Democratic Party Chair Yvette Lewis who will address the importance of electing progressive Democratic candidates instead of relying on Maryland's solidly "blue" history.

On Sunday, March 30 at 2 p.m. they will co-sponsor with the New Deal Café a special Reel & Meal program showing and discussing the film "Inequality for All." The film features Berkeley professor, former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich telling the story of the country's growing economic gap between the wealthy and middle class and the diminishing rights of workers. In the film, timed to coincide with the 50th anniversary of President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty, he states the gap between classes has not been this wide since the Great Depression in the 1930s. The issue and discussion of the ramifications has led to efforts to increase state and national minimum wages and inspired the Occupy Wall Street protests. The usual vegan buffet will be available for purchase.

Konrad Herling will lead the discussion following the film.

### Older Adult Quality Of Life Research

The University of Maryland (UMD) School of Public Health is seeking help with a research project. UMD researchers would like to ask people what they think older adults, such as a family member, need and want to stay healthy, safe and be involved in the community. This research is part of a larger study with the goal of improving community life for older adults in Maryland.

Researchers from UMD will come to Green Ridge House on Thursday, March 13, to host a discussion group with caregivers in the Greenbelt community. The discussion group will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. in the dining room. Light refreshments will be served. During the discussion group, participants will be asked to share experiences and opinions. The conversation will be lively and enjoyable, but confidential.

Here's how to participate: those who would like to join the discussion group, can provide their name and phone number to Sharon Johnson, Green Ridge House Resident Service Coordinator 301-412-2480. In a brief phone call from a UMD research team member participants will be asked a few short questions and then invited to join the discussion group if space is available.

For more information call Lori Simon-Rusinowitz, at the University of Maryland School of Public Health, 301-405-2548, or send an email to lasr@umd.edu.

### Free Diabetes Support Group

Doctors Community Hospital will hold a free diabetes support group on Monday, March 17 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be at 8100 Good Luck Road on the 5th floor of the North Building. To register call 301-324-4968.

### Book Club to Discuss Women's Nonfiction

A discussion of literary nonfiction by women will be held by the College Park Arts Exchange Book Club on Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the Old Parish House. The book to be discussed March 21 is "On Saudi Arabia: Its People, Past, Religion, Fault Lines – and Future" by Karen Elliott House.

The Old Parish House is located at 4711 Knox Road, College Park (corner of Knox and Dartmouth, near the Metro). Parking passes may be obtained at the door.



### Join Bird Walk At Lake Artemesia

The Prince George's Audubon Society will host a guided bird walk at Lake Artemesia for migrating and resident songbirds, waterfowl and other birds on Thursday, March 20 at 3 p.m. The paved walk loops around the 38-acre lake and along Indian Creek.

Meet at the parking lot at Berwyn Road and Balew Avenue in Berwyn Heights. All are welcome and no reservations are required for this free bird walk. Binoculars are suggested.

For more information call David Mozurkewich at 301-509-2212 or email mozurk@bellatlantic.net.

### Russian Music At National Gallery

On Sunday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. the National Gallery of Art concert series presents Irina Mozyleva, soprano, Magdalena Wor, mezzo-soprano, Vera Danchenko-Stern and Genadi Zagor, pianist in the West Building, West Garden Court. Music by Russian composers will be featured.

### Orchid Symphony At Botanic Garden



The U.S. Botanic Garden's (USBG) Conservatory Garden Court will be the site of a free concert on Friday, March 21 from 6 to 8 p.m. The program is "Orchid Symphony: A Little Night Music" featuring solo guitarist Christopher Jenkins.

Limited free seating will be available on a first come, first served basis.

### U.S. Botanic Garden Offers Tree Lecture

On Thursday, March 20 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. a lecture, Trees 101: Back to Basics, will be given by Education Technician Alex Torres.

Identifying trees and understanding their basic biology are critical components in maintaining healthy trees. This lecture is free, pre-registration is required. Visit [www.usbg.gov](http://www.usbg.gov) to register.



The Eleanor & Franklin Roosevelt Democratic Club is pleased to present two special Sunday events



Yvette Lewis, Maryland's State Democratic Party Chairwoman, an advocate for children and the performing arts, a lifelong grassroots activist\*  
Sunday, March 23rd, 2pm  
in the Greenbriar Community Building

and

In Partnership with Reel & Meal,  
The film: "Inequality for All"  
featuring former Secretary of Labor, Robert Reich  
\*Sunday, March 30th  
at the New Deal Café

A vegan buffet at 2pm - \$13 (Please pay after you enter the cafe) or a la carte at the Cafe's counter will precede the movie. Following the film, there will be a discussion facilitated by Konrad Herling

For further information, please call (301) 220-1025.



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# “Print-making Is Creative” – Kids, Parents Plan Return

by Daisy-Nelly Nji

Adults and kids of all ages came to take part in activities for Artful Afternoon on Sunday, March 2 at the Greenbelt Community Center. With a variety of activities including printmaking workshops, exhibits and open studios, there was something for everyone at the event.

Nora Simon, a resident artist, was in charge of the print-making workshop. As Simon demonstrated how to do the activity, she said the workshop was based on Indian block printing. She pointed out that the colors were based on the colors Indians would use, such as blue and pink. Simon decided to do block printing, she said, after hearing the winter musical, “Perseus and the Gorgon,” was going to have Indian motifs.

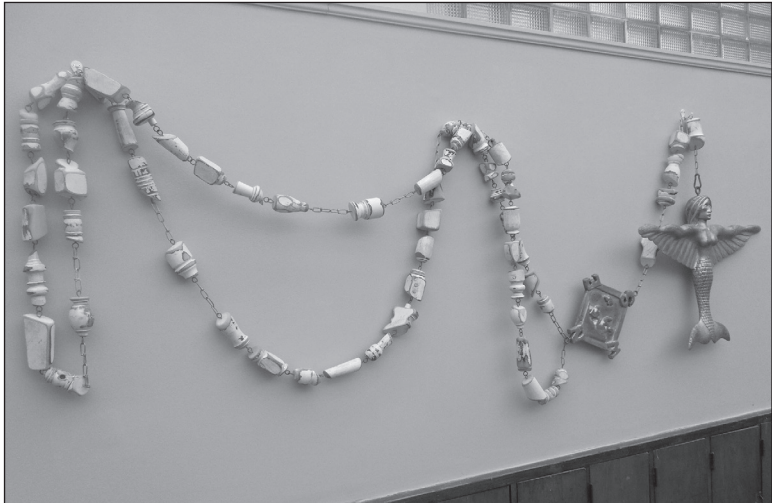
Mimi Gorburu, who attended the workshop with her mother, said block printing was really cool. “It’s very creative,” she said with a smile while working on her bandana. Zergo Rosentah, Gorburu’s friend, added that block printing “was really fun.”

Raime Brown and her parents Alex and Emily Brown enjoyed the activity too. Raime said she liked the colors used for block printing. The Browns said this was their first time at Artful Afternoon and they really liked how well-organized the event was for kids and said they would definitely come again.

Jordan Tierney had a reception for her artwork at the Artful Afternoon. Tierney’s work titled “Intertidal Souls” is based on discoveries she made or on things she found interesting and wanted to share. She said she wanted people to take something away after looking at her work such as their own self-discoveries and interests.



Mimi Gorburu and Zergo Rosentah smiling for the camera in front of their art work at the printing workshop.



Sailor’s Rosary made by Jordan Tierney

Tierney used styrofoam, lobster traps, newspapers, sewing patterns, broken furniture and other materials to tell a story through her work. She said these materials have their own stories and they come alive for

her. Tierney added that her pieces combine thought-provoking narratives with a visceral approach to the material. During the reception, Tierney answered questions and spoke with visitors. She explained



Judith Kornett demonstrating how to work on the wheel of clay

her inspiration for each of her artworks.

### Ceramic Sculptor

Upstairs in the Community Center, Judith Kornett, a ceramic sculptor, taught visitors to use the clay wheel to create their own works of art. “We have wheel classes for people of all levels,” she said. Kornett’s love for the people of Greenbelt is one of the reasons she enjoys participating in Artful Afternoons.

Next to the ceramic workshop were open studios of resident artists Celestine Ranney-Howes, Mary Wong and Sherill Anne Gross. During the open house, artists not only displayed finished artwork but also worked on their new pieces.

Most artists at the open studio said their inspiration came from a mood or feeling. Wong, a painter, said she enjoyed other people’s reactions and feedback. Gross, a cut-paper artist, summed up why Artful Afternoon is valuable to artists and visitors. “Art is for everybody,” she said. “Something will resonate in everyone who views it.”

### City Notes

Planning staff continued progress on Greenbelt Station South Core details with the developers, including development review on the multifamily component.

Public Works staff marked trees to be removed at the Hamilton Gardens Community Garden.

Street Maintenance/Special Details crew removed stumps and debris at the gardens on Gardenway and started putting plows into storage that will hopefully stay there until next year.

Horticulture/Parks crew started clearing an eight-foot perimeter around the community gardens on Gardenway.

Facilities Maintenance crew installed two public phones – one at the Aquatic & Fitness Center and one at the Community Center.

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### Whooping Crane Observatory Tour

On Sunday, March 16 from 1:30 to 3 p.m., those ages 14+ can enjoy a guided tour to the Whooping Crane Observatory at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center to observe a pair of endangered adult whooping cranes and learn about the whooping crane population recovery program. Arrive early as the tour will leave on time. Space is very limited.

Public programs at the Patuxent Research Refuge are free although advance registration is required by calling 301-497-5887. For more information visit the website at [www.patuxent.fws.gov](http://www.patuxent.fws.gov). The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

### See Award-Winning Jr. Duck Stamp Entries

Visit the Hollingsworth Art Gallery at the National Wildlife Visitor Center to see the award-winning entries of the Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest. The show opens March 15. The competition is part of the Junior Duck Stamp educational program. To learn more or how to participate visit <http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/ArtContest.htm>.

For more information about the Hollingsworth Art Gallery artists visit <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/patuxent/vcgallery.html>.

The Visitor Center is on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

### Montpelier’s History Lecture Series

As part of its free Spring History Lecture Series, Montpelier Mansion will present “History through a Drinking Vessel” on Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. Rod Cofield, executive director of Historic London Town and Gardens, will speak on taverns and travel in the 18th century including beverages, libations and tavern culture. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information call 301-377-7817, TTY 301-699-2544 or go to [www.pgiparks.com](http://www.pgiparks.com). Montpelier Mansion is located at 9650 Muirkirk Road (Muirkirk Road at Route 197) in Laurel.



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Councilmember Rodney Roberts assists with efforts to protect trees from beavers that dwell at Greenbelt Lake.

## CHEARS Volunteers Help To Protect Trees in Park

In response to the most recent eruption of the perennial controversy regarding beavers at Buddy Attick Park, the Chesapeake Education Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), a local nonprofit that seeks to restore and promote the health of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, conducted two beaver-tree protection workshops last month. The workshops educated Greenbelters about beaver activity at the lake park and how to assist in protecting trees from damage.

According to a press release issued by CHEARS, their goals in the workshops, held in conjunction with the Greenbelt Public Works Department, were to educate citizens about a wildlife management issue and to demonstrate that “ordinary folks can make a difference in the health of Greenbelt’s remnant woods by taking simple and fun actions.”

In this case, participants learned a proper technique for protecting trees by placing metal caging around the trunks of selected trees to prevent access by beavers. The February 1 workshop attracted 28 volunteers, with 31 attending the February 8 workshop.

### Beavers’ Role

The workshops started with a presentation on the importance of beavers’ role in the ecosystem and why once again they have become a problem in Buddy Attick Park. The volunteers then went to work on a woodland site in the eastern portion of the park heavily damaged by beavers. Some 59 dedicated community members protected nearly 250 trees with caging.

To help ease the cost of supplies, Greenbelt resident Amy

Hansen and her husband Bob Candey donated \$100 worth of poly-coated metal caging.

In addition to positive measurable outcomes, CHEARS reported that the workshop provided a space for citizens not only to vent their viewpoints on the beaver situation but also to take action, making a noticeable difference in the condition of the tree overstory along Greenbelt Lake.

Despite conflicting views on the current management scenario with beavers in the park, program participants worked well together as they placed caging around their favorite trees. One volunteer, Barbara Bjanas, expressed gratitude to the workshop facilitators, thanking them for providing an outlet for the community to become directly involved in a productive stewardship activity.

### A Nonprofit

CHEARS is a nonprofit organization partnering with the Greenbelt Department of Public Works, other local nonprofits, schools, watershed groups and businesses to offer intergenerational environmental education and stewardship opportunities. CHEARS also works with Volunteer Maryland, a state AmeriCorps program, to co-host a full-time Volunteer Maryland coordinator to build volunteer capacity within the city of Greenbelt and on public lands connected to CHEARS projects.

For more information on CHEARS, visit [www.chears.org](http://www.chears.org). To view a video of the presentation given at the beaver workshops at Buddy Attick Park, go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=klfNi8kP\\_1A&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klfNi8kP_1A&feature=youtu.be).

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## In Support of the New Deal Café Board

**O**n January 27, 2014, the Board of Directors (the Board) of The New Deal Café Cooperative (the Café) voted to dismiss the General Manager (GM).

We, the undersigned members of the community are writing to indicate that

- (1) we support the decision of the Board to relieve the GM of her part-time duties; and
- (2) we view this action to be fully within the scope of the Board’s responsibility to ensure efficient and effective operation of the Café.

We have full confidence that this action was taken after careful consideration of the former GM’s level of performance in many areas, and that sufficient cause existed to take this action as supported by the Café Bylaws.

The Café Bylaws state that the Board shall appoint a general manager and that, “Employment or removal of the general manager must be voted by a majority of the entire Board of Directors”, (Article V, section 4; “Directors, Powers and Duties”). The Board brought the above-referenced motion for dismissal and a majority vote was achieved.

It is also the view of the undersigned that the Board is proceeding in a responsible and professional manner to ensure that all vital responsibilities of the former GM are satisfied. These actions include (but

are not limited to) the hiring of an outside accounting firm to administer Café payroll and taxes; making payments to vendors and contractors; and supporting restaurant and bar staff in the day to day operation of the Café. It is also expected that the Audit committee will continue to provide valuable advice and oversight to the Board as the Café moves forward on other pressing issues.

The Café members voted to elect the present Board of Directors, charging the Board with certain responsibilities for taking action where necessary. All interested parties are welcome to attend monthly Café Board meetings; membership is not required to attend. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the Café. The yearly General Membership Meeting will be in May. Board Elections will be held at that time and membership is required for voting. We strongly urge those who value the current operation of the Café to join the Co-op so that the election may result in the continuation of a Board that supports the music, employees and true cooperative nature of the Café.

**I**n closing, it is the feeling of the undersigned that the cooperative spirit is alive and well at the New Deal Café and the current improvement in professionalism, communication, and morale will serve the membership, patrons, and the entire Greenbelt community.

*Respectfully submitted by 57 community members, listed in copies of this letter submitted to the Board and to the Greenbelters groups on [Facebook](#) and [Yahoo](#).*

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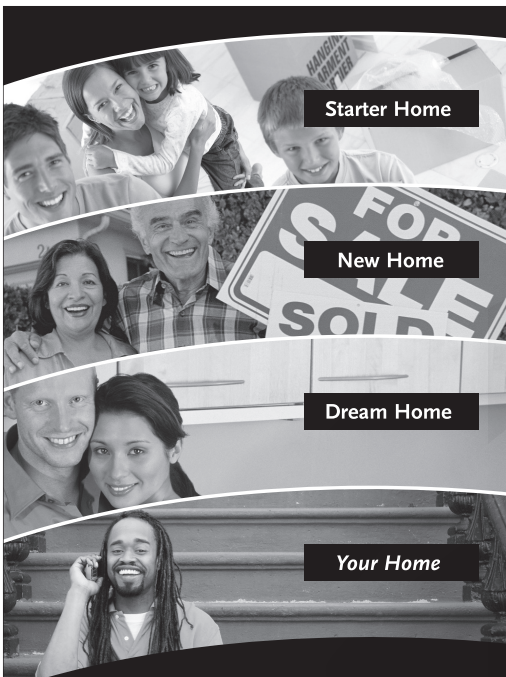
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# Lady Raiders Win Regional and Advance to State

by Patrick Gleason

After a series of dominating victories in the regional playoffs, the Eleanor Roosevelt Lady Raiders appear ready to vanquish last season’s painful loss in the state semifinals. The Raiders (24-0) are scheduled to tip off Thursday evening at 5 p.m. against perennial state power Paint Branch High School. The tournament is being held at Towson University’s new SECU Arena.

The Raiders set the tone in their opening round game against Bowie High – only one of two regular season opponents not to succumb to a double digit defeat – as they commanded an early lead en route to a 73-38 victory. Paving the way with 24 points and 17 rebounds was Tolu Omokore, whose heart, hustle and height has overwhelmed opponents all season. The following night the Raiders dispatched a talented Flowers High squad 64-24 and claimed the regional championship Saturday with a 67-32 victory over the Laurel Spartans.

Roosevelt is hoping for its first state championship under fifth year coach Delton Fuller, although the Lady Raiders won five consecutive state titles from 2005-2009. Heading into the state tournament the Raiders will lean on the size of Omokore and freshman Jaala Henry, while Octavia Wilson and Kaila Charles are scoring threats from any spot on the court. Daijah Davis is the Raider’s sure-handed ball handler.

With a victory, the Raiders will advance to Saturday’s championship game against the winner of North Point and Magruder at 3 p.m.

## Online Film Festivals Open To Marylanders

Crabby Clips is a brand new online film festival open to all filmmakers within the state of Maryland (including Maryland student filmmakers). Online film festivals bring opportunities for talented up and coming makers and encourage them to participate in other online festivals in order to reach a wider audience for their work.

Crabby Clips is the project of FIVTH400, the Arts Management class at Stevenson University’s Film/Video department in Owings Mills, Md., the class includes budding film and video makers and enthusiasts learning production and project management skills.

To submit a short film or view the submissions go to [crabbyclips.com](http://crabbyclips.com). The deadline for submissions is April 1. Prizes and jury information will be released soon. Check [www.crabbyclips.com](http://www.crabbyclips.com) for more information or email [info@crabbyclips.com](mailto:info@crabbyclips.com).



ERHS Lady Raiders beat Largo High School 71 to 35 on February 27 to capture the Prince George's County Girls Basketball Championship. Two more victories have brought them the regional championship.

## Widowed Persons Support Group

Men and women who have recently lost their spouses are invited to a free support group conducted by the Patuxent Widowed Persons Service (PWPS). The group will meet one afternoon each week for six weeks starting Thursday, March 20, at the Residence on Greenbelt, 9885 Greenbelt Road, Lanham.

Each session will run from 2 to 4 p.m. Registration is required before the group starts. The group is open to all widowed persons in Prince George County regardless of age, race, or religious belief. Trained volunteers who have also been widowed will conduct the sessions. Participants share personal experiences, exchange information, and discuss published materials prepared by bereavement specialists.

To register and to receive more information and directions, call Mabel at 301-577-4312 or Resa at 301-345-3583. PWPS programs and services were originally sponsored by American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) and now by the Greenbelt Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and other community organizations.

Send us your story  
[newsreview@verizon.net](mailto:newsreview@verizon.net)



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